

The Mistress of Tea Changes Lives a Cup at a Time

by Steve Reed

When she was a student at Cottey, friends gave **Zhena Muzyka '95** the nickname "California." Granted, that was her home state, but the nickname was due more to, "my point of view on wanting to save the world and being a little 'granola'" said Muzyka with a laugh. Today, Muzyka does live in California, but more important, she is doing what she can to "save the world," particularly the world that laborers live in on tea plantations. Muzyka is the president and founder of Zhena's Gypsy Tea Company and her insistence on Fair Trade practices have improved the lives of hundreds of workers.

"The quality of life has so improved on Fair Trade estates, and it's something simple that people can do for just pennies a cup," said Muzyka. "It makes a world of difference."

Interestingly enough, Muzyka was able to help others by first helping herself. She was working on a book about her grandmother, a Ukrainian Gypsy, when

her son, Sage was born in 2000. (Originally, Muzyka wanted to pursue a career as a writer. She won a Pillsbury Writing Award through the Santa Barbara Foundation, and herbal medicine was just a hobby.) Although she had no health insurance, Muzyka was healthy and expected the best from her pregnancy. Within a few weeks of his birth, however, Sage was diagnosed with a serious birth defect that required immediate surgery. The surgery was successful, but because of his care requirements, Muzyka would need to find a job that would allow her to have Sage with her at work. Her search for a such a work environment was fruitless.

With a \$3,000 loan from family members (sound familiar Virginia Alice Cottey fans?), Muzyka bought a tea cart with an espresso machine. She would take Sage in a baby carrier while she set up shop and sold blended tea drinks.

"I used to make these really unique lattes with an espresso machine on my cart," she explained. "It was so much fun. I was really selling lattes and selling my teas in little corsage bags tied with a ribbon."



Photo courtesy of Zhena's Gypsy Tea

Zhena Muzyka '95, self-proclaimed "Mistress of Tea" created a multi-million dollar business born out of necessity, and with that has improved the lives of others around the world through her Fair Trade practices.

Muzyka did have the right background for the tea business. Call it serendipity or fortuitous planning, but prior to her business venture Muzyka had studied herbal medicine with ethnobotanists in Peru.

"I was taking a home studies course on home remedies and medicine through the Clayton College of Natural Health," she said. "When I got the opportunity to go to Peru, I jumped. I found a deep passion for the wonders of the natural world."

Ethnobotanists are scientists who study the relationship between indigenous cultures and how they use their plants. "In the rain forest, shamans use plants for all kinds of medicinal uses," added Muzyka. Based on her experience in Peru, Muzyka found herself doing organic scent profiles for a hair care company.

About six months after she began selling blended tea drinks and small packets of loose tea from her cart, Muzyka's business began to take off. Soon she was packaging and selling teas for local cafes.

"I put together a menu of loose teas for spas and cafes and hosted tastings," said

Muzyka. "I would put my son in his backpack and would hold tastings for chefs of four-star restaurants. I was selling tea in one-pound bags before getting into the tins we sell today."

Soon, a Southern California buyer for the Whole Foods stores discovered Zhena's Gypsy Teas and became interested in selling them through the chain. Muzyka put some tea blends into tins and did a presentation for Whole Foods. Once they said they were interested, Muzyka designed some packaging and went to a trade show in 2003. Today her teas are available through a number of organic and whole food chains as well as catalog outlets and her Web site: www.gypsytea.com. From \$4,000 in total sales her first year, Muzyka's business is now a multi-million dollar per year company.

Although Muzyka has a background and training in herbal remedies, she does not have a business degree. "Not having a business background has been very satisfying," she explained. "I've learned everything through practical knowledge. My learning is getting my hands dirty

What is "Fair Trade" and Why Does it Matter?

"Search and see if there is not some place where you may invest your humanity," said Nobel prize winner Dr. Albert Schweitzer. That, in a nutshell, is what Fair Trade is all about: investing humanity into a business.

"From day one I decided I would only sell Fair Trade products," said **Zhena Muzyka '95**, founder and president of Zhena's Gypsy Teas. "I found out that in many conventional tea estates there was up to 70 percent infant mortality rate because of the abject poverty. I made it my company and personal mission to end poverty in the tea world."

The average tea plucker is a woman (men's fingers are generally too big to pluck tea leaves properly). It takes 2,000 individual plucks to make one kilogram of tea, and a worker's daily quota is eight kilograms, which is 32,000 individual plucks every single day of her life. Those workers make less than \$1.35 per day, have an average household of six to support with that income and after 10 hours in the fields, prepare the meals, care for the children and hand scrub their clothing in a little bucket outside their back door. Their day is usually close to 18 hours.

"When I purchase organic tea from a Fair Trade garden, I pay a Fair Trade premium of 1 Euro (\$1.40 US) per kilogram," said Muzyka. "Because of the Fair Trade payment, the workers have guaranteed health care, maternity leave, education, housing,

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Please see Mistress of Tea on page 7

Candidates for CCAA Executive Board

The following slate of candidates are proposed for the Cottey College Alumnae Association Executive Board. You may vote for the slate of candidates by e-mailing alumnae@cottey.edu or by mailing in the ballot at the bottom of the page. Please submit your vote by April 1, 2009.



Adele Ausink Dolan '71

Though I was born in Seattle, Washington, we moved around as I was growing up, so I graduated from high school in Cheyenne, Wyoming. From Cottey, I went on to complete a B.A. in French and Theatre at the University of Tulsa, and an M.A. in French Literature at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. Between my course work at Vanderbilt and the completion of my thesis, I worked for four years in the Cottey College Alumnae Office, was active in the Nevada community, and married a Nevada 3M-er who was transferred back to the St. Paul plant. We settled in Hudson, Wisconsin, just outside of St. Paul, and near Mark's childhood home of River Falls. We have four children, ages 27 to 15. Mark continues to work for 3M and loves hunting, lumberjacking, and woodworking. I am a homemaker, community volunteer, P.E.O., and part-time lecturer in French at UW River Falls. We are both active in the United Methodist Church and choir. My theatrical endeavors are sporadic, but I sing regularly with two choral groups at the Phipps Center for the Arts here in Hudson. I serve on the board of the Christian Community Homes, Inc. of Hudson and on the Administrative Council of Hudson United Methodist Church, am past president of my local P.E.O. chapter, and recently completed a three-year term on the Wisconsin State Cottey College Committee.



Betzy Fry '81

After Cottey, I graduated from the University of Oregon with a B.A. in journalism / public relations. I then returned to Cottey to work in admission, a wonderful experience. I also recruited students for Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, another women's college. I am a huge advocate for women's education and my reputation in P.E.O. Chapter AL (Oregon) is for finding exceptional P.E.O. scholarship candidates. My mother, Alberta Fry, is a past state president of Oregon State Chapter. For 17 years, I have raised funds for non-profit organizations including the United Way, a historical and economic development maritime project, a private school, Girl Scouts, and a children's museum. I look forward to serving the Cottey community, getting to know more alumnae and helping more young women gain some of the incredible experiences I had as a student.

Jim McCauley and I have been married for nearly 23 years and our children Kelsey (13) and Sean (11) keep us dashing from one sport to the next: football, volleyball, basketball, lacrosse. Both kids are native French speakers and we traveled through France in 2008 when Sean finished the fifth grade. We snow ski in Oregon each winter and water ski in Montana each summer.

Class Notes, from page 6

lent English. Tania asks, 'Why is that?' Diana, replies that she spent two years in the United States. Tania's interest is growing and asks where in the US. Diana responds with 'Missouri'. Tania thinks this is starting to sound a bit familiar, two years in Missouri, and asks, 'where in Missouri?' Diana, who has had a kind of feeling about this conversation from the beginning, says 'Cottey College!', at which point Tania takes the glass out of Diana's hand so as not to spill, says 'I'm a Cottey girl as well!' and there is much squealing and hugging!!

Dr. Tania String '78 is lecturer in the History of Art. She is married to Professor Marcus Bull, who teaches Medieval History at the University of Bristol. They have one daughter, Sasha, who turned nine on Valentine's Day.



Karma Quick '01

Karma Quick is a 2001 graduate of Cottey College. A native of Maquoketa, Iowa, she returned to her home state to finish her undergraduate education with a B.A. in political science from Central College in 2003. Shortly thereafter, she moved to the San Francisco Bay Area for an internship with Disability Rights Advocates, at the law firm of Cottey classmate Alexa Benedetti's mother. In May 2008, she graduated from New College of California School of Law and is working with the San Francisco Mayor's Office on Disability and with Otis Institute, Inc. As a third-generation P.E.O. and as the current president of Chapter GR, San Francisco, Karma is thrilled to not only work with Alexa as her recording secretary but three other Cottey alumnae who are active members in the chapter as well. Chapter GR is additionally sponsoring a current Cottey student. With a passion for all that Cottey has done and is doing for women in education, and with gratitude for the opportunities that attending Cottey made possible for her, Karma very much looks forward to giving back to the College in service and in working with her fellow alumnae to network with each other and to make the Cottey experience possible for young women across the world.



Caroline Taylor '76

I graduated from Cottey in 1976 and went on to the University of Missouri Columbia where I earned a degree in business management. I married Tom Taylor of Nevada, Missouri, in 1977 and after college we moved to Independence, Missouri. I worked at a savings and loan as a manager before my two children were born. In 1986 my family moved back to Nevada where my husband is self-employed as an engineer. For the last 14 years I have worked for the Nevada R-V School District as an administrative assistant. I also work as a bookkeeper for my husband and we manage several rental properties that we own.

My daughter, Brooke, and her husband, David, reside in St Louis, Missouri, where David is a teacher and Brooke is in the English Literature Ph.D. program through Washington University. My son, Brandon, recently received his master's degree from MIT's Media Lab and is currently living in Tokyo, Japan.

I am pleased to have been nominated to serve on Cottey's alumnae board. I have lived in Nevada for over 20 years and hope my experience as a "local" will be an asset to the board.

Nominees for Cottey College Alumnae Association Executive Board:
Adele Ausink Dolan, '71, Betzy Fry '81
Karma Quick '01, Caroline Taylor '76

☐ I approve the slate of officers nominated above

Proposed changes to the CCAA Bylaws:
Amend Article VI, Section 1. by changing "three Directors" to "four Directors," so that, if approved, it would read: The Executive Board of the CCAA shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and four Directors.

Amend Article VI by adding a new Section 2: One of the eight members of the CCAA Executive Board shall be a Vernon County (MO) alumna. The only expenses allowed for this director will be for meals while on campus.

(If this is adopted, the remaining sections in Article VI will be renumbered.)

☐ I approve the bylaw shown above

Name _____ Class _____

Return ballot by April 1, 2009, to Office of Alumnae Relations, Cottey College, 1000 W. Austin, Nevada, MO 64772

Looking at the Class of 2012

by Judy R. Rogers, Ph.D.

Times change too swiftly for an organization to permit itself to be trapped by contentment and indecision. An organization must continually attempt to adjust itself to the internal and the external environment or it will not survive. Joan Bradshaw, Past President of P.E.O. International Sisterhood.

The Cottey College Planning Committee, one of the most active committees on our campus, translated Joan Bradshaw's insight about the importance of a planning process that examines the external environment into a semester of study and research. The committee members began by searching for answers to the question: "What will the Cottey student of 2012 be like?" Since there will be a major revision of the College's five-year strategic plan in 2012, we need to understand clearly the students we will recruit and enroll, their level of academic preparation, their strongest interests, their financial status, and their expectations. The committee's findings were interesting, challenging, and worthy of serious consideration. Our study was guided in part by the publication, *Millennials Go To College* by Neil Howe and William Strauss.

We are all no doubt aware of the rapidly changing demographics of our nation, but the committee's findings on the topic

of the expected ethnic diversity of the class of 2012 cause us to reflect on the implications for Cottey College. We are anticipating a decline in the number of students graduating from high school in a number of states. There will be a decrease in the number of white and African American students graduating and an increase in the number of Asian and Hispanic students. Cottey must prepare for the class of 2012 with both academic and cocurricular programs to support ethnically diverse students.

Changes in technology will affect the way faculty teach and students learn. The committee member reporting on the topic of technology demonstrated this point by showing a short YouTube video created by two mathematics professors at the University of Minnesota using 3-D animation to illustrate Möbius transformations. This video has been viewed more than 1.2 million times!

One of the most noticeable results of new technology may be in college bookstores. Students will have access to products such as Amazon's Kindle that have the ability to download whole textbooks into one small portable device. This could halt or decrease the escalating cost of textbooks and eliminate the need for the twenty-pound backpacks that we see students carrying across campus.

A significant focus of the planning committee's study was the status of women's colleges. There are currently forty-seven independent women's colleges. There are five additional women's colleges within universities. Among recent changes are Hood College which has been co-educational since 2002; Wells College, Blue Mountain College, and Immaculata University that have been co-educational since 2005; Regis College and Randolph-Macon Woman's College that became co-educational in 2007; and Rosemont College that changed status in 2008. Newcomb College at Tulane University was discontinued in 2006, and Marymount College at Fordham University closed in 2007. Only thirteen of the forty-seven colleges admit women exclusively, and most, all but eleven, offer graduate degrees.

While other institutions are admitting men or closing their doors, Cottey College remains steadfastly committed to women's education. Alumnae of women's colleges continue to affirm the value of their educational experience at women's colleges. Cottey alumnae must help articulate to the young women they know what is unique about the Cottey experience to assist the College with our recruiting efforts.

The financial needs and expectations of the students of 2012 was, without doubt, the most difficult topic to cover because of the economic turmoil of the past eight months. The committee's conclusions are based on the trends of the past several years: Students will need increased financial aid, and families will select colleges that demonstrate the value they add to students' ability to move into desirable careers and professions. Cottey's tuition remains low when compared to other



Credit: © 2008, Don Wilkinson/Joplin Business Journal

Dr. Judy R. Rogers

private liberal arts colleges. If a young woman wants a liberal arts educational experience, then Cottey is a tremendous bargain. For example, Cottey's average financial aid package in 2008-2009 was \$14,800. The billable cost for tuition, fees, room and board for 2009-2010 is \$20,300, so the average out-of-pocket expense will be about \$5,500. This is a second message that Cottey alumnae must share with prospective students.

As Joan Bradshaw predicted, times have indeed changed swiftly. In August 2008, Cottey experienced the fourth consecutive year of enrollment growth and a remarkably strong endowment. In a very short time, the external environment changed, and we must adjust by understanding that environment and responding to it.

Faculty/Staff Notes

Dr. Rosemary Fowler, professor emerita of chemistry, has received special recognition from the American Chemical Society honoring her 50th anniversary with the Society and her outstanding service to the organization. In addition to receiving a 50-year ACS member pin, her name will appear in an upcoming issue of Chemical & Engineering News among other names of distinguished members who have also achieved a half century of membership.

On January 17, **Gary Johnson**, adjunct assistant professor of music, was the clinician for the Southwest Missouri Educators Association's 7th Grade Honor Band. There were 95 students from 25 schools in the honor band. They rehearsed throughout the day and presented a concert that evening along with the 8th Grade Honor Band and the High School All-Region Band. The concert was held in the Fine Arts Auditorium of the Webb City High School with an audience of over 600.

Dr. Brenda Ross, **Dr. Kathy Pivak**, and **Dr. Mary Emily Kitterman** attended the Thirteenth Annual National Learning Communities Conference in Kansas City on November 13-15. Key-note speakers were Dr. Vincent Tinto, nationally-recognized authority on student retention and Jean MacGregor, co-founder of the Washington Center for Improving the Quality of Undergraduate

Education at Evergreen State College. The conference theme, "Connecting in Community," featured a variety of sessions focused on strategies for creating and deepening community both in institutions of higher education themselves and in the communities in which they work. This conference was hosted by a partnership of five institutions: Delta College (Michigan), Harper College (Chicago), IUPUI (Indianapolis), Kennesaw State (Atlanta), and Metropolitan Community College of Kansas City.

Amy Ruetten, controller, has been appointed to the Annual Meeting Host Committee of the Central Association of College and University Business Officers (CACUBO).

CACUBO is a nonprofit association representing chief business officers at over 700 institutions throughout the North Central region of the United States. The association promotes sound principles and practices of educational business administration through both professional development programs and concerted actions in matters affecting the financial health of institutions of higher learning.

The primary objective of CACUBO is to plan, provide, and encourage professional and personal development for all levels of management in the business and financial area of higher education.

I know a student! Please send information about Cottey to:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

High School _____

Year of Graduation _____

Have you talked to this student about Cottey? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you a ☐ P.E.O.? ☐ Cottey alumna? Chapter _____
Class year _____

Your name and address _____

Your e-mail address _____

Please return to: Office of Enrollment Management, Cottey College,
1000 W. Austin, Nevada, MO 64772

Spring '09

Continuing a Tradition



The College held its annual holiday celebration in December, Hanging of the Greens. Friday night events saw the traditional Chapel service followed by caroling and decorating the campus buildings with student-constructed wreaths. Above, members of Delta Psi Omega, the theater honor society proudly display their wreath before the caroling.

Job Opportunities with Cottey College

A college for women owned and supported by women, Cottey College seeks a dynamic and experienced Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA) and Dean of the Faculty to help advance the institution to new levels of achievement and distinction.

Founded in 1884, Cottey is a two-year, independent liberal arts college for women offering outstanding undergraduate education through a combination of academic rigor and personal interaction fully committed to excellence. An appointment date of July 1, 2009, is anticipated.

A model for women's education, Cottey College is a non-sectarian, residential institution specializing in the first two years of post-secondary education. The College is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Cottey currently enrolls 330 students, who represent 40 states and 21 foreign countries. The College has developed a transfer oriented liberal arts curriculum, offering the Associate in Arts and the Associate in Science degrees through four major divisions: Fine Arts, Humanities, Science and Mathematics, and Social Science.

The VPAA is responsible for planning, administering and enhancing the academic program and for overseeing the following support areas: academic and career services, registrar, library, international programs, international students, and academic computing.

While applications will be accepted until a new VPAA is selected, interested parties are encouraged to submit their materials by late-March 2009. To apply, candidates should submit a reflective letter of interest addressing the ways in which they meet desired characteristics and their background in relation to the challenges and opportunities described above. Applications should include a current résumé and the names and phone numbers of at least five professional references as well as the relationship of the applicant to each reference. Send materials as an e-mail attachment in Word and addressed to: CotteyVPAA@academic-search.com

For additional information, please consult the Cottey College Web site. Assisting in the search is:

Maya Ranchod Kirkhope, Senior Consultant
Academic Search, Inc.

maya.kirkhope@academic-search.com
(703) 440-1008 (o) and (703) 380-9195 (c)

<http://www.academic-search.com>

Cottey College is an equal opportunity employer.

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The office may be reached by phone at (417) 667-8181, ext. 2122 or by fax at (417) 667-8103.

Messages may also be sent by e-mail to alumnae@cottey.edu, for the Office of Alumnae Relations, or publicinfo@cottey.edu for the Viewpoint editor.

For address changes: contact the Office of Alumnae Relations
To submit class notes: contact the Office of Alumnae Relations
To suggest story ideas: contact the Office of Public Information

A Message From Your CCAA

Founder's Day 2009!!!!!! Have you made your transportation plans, reserved your motel room, and contacted your classmates? Hopefully you have and many of your friends are planning on attending April 3-5. We are sure you will like the changes in the scheduling of events on Saturday. You can don your dressier clothes first thing in the morning for pictures, Presentation Brunch, and the President's Open House and then change to more casual clothes for the Homecoming Celebration and evening activities.



Remember, your classmates cannot contact you or you cannot contact them if you do not go to www.cotteycommunity.org to update or keep your personal information current. Remember, if you changed to a new e-mail provider please update your information. If you have not logged on before, use your member ID number found on the mailing label of your Viewpoint. If you have logged on before and set a password and the system does not accept it, use your member ID again and then change your password. You will be prompted for this information.

You can register for Founder's Day at www.cotteycommunity.org. We are looking forward to seeing a big turnout this year. Remember, some of the classes to be honored this year are: 65 years-1944, 50 years-1959, and 25 years-1984.

Please join your Cottey sisters to celebrate Founder's Day and the 125th anniversary year of the College that has provided us with an education, friendships, and an inspiration to continue to achieve in our daily lives. What an opportunity it would be if every young woman would have the "Cottey experience" that was provided to us. They can -- if we support Cottey by giving, volunteering, and recruiting. Come, celebrate and continue your "Cottey experience" at Founder's Day 2009.

Jan Ensminger '59
CCAA Board

Founder's Day Weekend 2009

Friday, April 3

1-8 p.m.	Registration
1-5:30 p.m.	Bookstore Open
	Campus Buildings Open
	Residence Halls Open
3-5 p.m.	Faculty Reception with Harry Chew Art Exhibit
5 p.m.	Virginia Alice Cottey Stockard Celebration
6 p.m.	Supper and Fiesta
7:30-11 p.m.	Class Reunions
8-10 p.m.	Chellie Club Open

Saturday, April 4

9-11 a.m.	Registration
9-10:30 a.m.	Class Pictures
	Bookstore Open
11 a.m.	Founder's Day Brunch
1:30-2:30 p.m.	President's House Reception
2 p.m.	• Optional Events
	• Campus Tours
	• Residence Halls Open
	• Meet and Greet with Students
	• Chellie Club Open
4-6 p.m.	Homecoming Celebration
6 p.m.	Supper and Sing
7:30-11 p.m.	Class Reunions

Sunday, April 5

9 a.m.-Noon	Campus Buildings Open
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Brunch Buffet

Women Who Make a Difference

Cottey College Honored for Community Service

The Corporation for National and Community Service honored Cottey College with a place on the President's Higher

Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service efforts and service to America's communities.

Launched in 2006, the Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its

commitment to service-learning and civic engagement. Honorees for the award were chosen based on a series of selection factors including scope and innovation of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

"In this time of economic distress, we need volunteers more than ever. College students represent an enormous pool of

idealism and energy to help tackle some of our toughest challenges," said Stephen Goldsmith, vice chair of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service, which oversees the Honor Roll. "We salute Cottey College for making community service a campus priority, and thank the millions of college students who are helping to renew America through service to others."

The Honor Roll is a program of the Corporation, in collaboration with the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll is presented during the annual conference of the American Council on Education.

"I offer heartfelt congratulations to those institutions named to the 2008 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. College and university students across the country are making a difference in the lives of others every day – as are the institutions that encourage their students to serve others," said American Council on Education President Molly Corbett Broad.

Recent studies have underlined the importance of service-learning and volunteering to college students. In 2006, 2.8 million college students gave more than 297 million hours of volunteer service, according to the Corporation's Volunteering in America 2007 study. Expanding campus incentives for service is part of a larger initiative to spur higher levels of volunteering by America's college students. The Corporation is working with a coalition of federal agencies, higher education and student associations, and nonprofit organizations to achieve this goal.

The Corporation for National and Community Service is a federal agency that improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. The Corporation administers Senior Corps, Ameri-



Cottey students worked a variety of service projects on Saturday, January 17, as part of a nationwide call to service in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The photos on this page are from two of the 12 student service projects: a BINGO tournament for retired people served by the local housing authority, and an indoor carnival for area youth between the ages of 6-13. To see more photos of the Day of Service, visit this page on the Cottey Web site: www.cottey.edu/home/studentlife/MLKdayofservice.html.

Alumnae Provide Service to Area Community

Two Cottey College alumnae with careers in graphic design have been lending their talents to a local charity. **Kate Northern '03**, of New York City, and **Sarah Roulston '04**, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, have donated their time to create publicity and publications for the Lighthouse Children's Theatre in El Dorado Springs, Missouri.

Just over a year ago, the Lighthouse Children's Theatre was merely a vision in the mind of a retired school teacher in El Dorado Springs. Now entering its second season, the organization's programs include acting academies for children ages 3 – 17. It boasts a volunteer staff of about 20, and the overwhelming support of businesses, community members, arts councils, and even government officials. However, there is a much bigger goal that has yet to be fulfilled — building a home for the Lighthouse.

Northern got involved with the LCT last year when she was back in Nevada, Missouri, and looking for free-lance work. "For almost a year now, I've been helping develop a children's theatre organization in El Dorado Springs. I'm directing development, as well as doing all of the graphic design," said Northern. "This organization is such a wonderful one — it's bringing arts and culture, education, and so many good things to Eldo, but one of the goals is to make this organization available to kids in all the surrounding communities, not just Eldo. We really want to make ties between communities in the region."

With her passion for the program, Northern enlisted the aid of her freshman, Roulston, who is doing graphic design work for LCT. Together they have designed all the publications for a gala the LCT is hosting on Saturday, April 26. A special guest at the event will be Karolyn Grimes, who played Zuzu in the movie *It's a Wonderful Life*. Other members of the Cottey community have been involved as well. Cottey's chef, Michael Richardson, served as a consultant for the gala, and professor emeritus Dr. Charles Nash will be writing a column for the local paper.

For more information on the Lighthouse Children's Theatre or the gala, visit the Web site (designed by Northern) at: www.lighthousechildrenstheatre.org.



Overall, the Corporation honored six schools with Presidential Awards. In addition, 83 were named as Honor Roll With Distinction members and 546 schools as Honor Roll members. In total, 635 schools were recognized. A full list is available at www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll.

Corps, and Learn and Serve America, a program that supports service-learning in schools, institutions of higher education, and community-based organizations. For more information, go to www.nationalservice.gov.

Class Notes

[Notable People]

1950s



Blanche (Garrigues) Parker '57 has this story to share:

"I'll never forget donning hats, gloves, and heels for a bus trip to Kansas City to attend a play or the symphony. Such excitement in the mid-fifties for a small town girl! On November 7, 2008, I visited the National World War I Museum in Kansas City. I joined a small group led by a very dignified and well-informed gentleman. A woman in the group told me that it was Carl DiCapo, owner of the Italian Gardens. Memories swept my mind as that was always our dinner destination on our Cottey bus trips! I told Mr. DiCapo about my recollections and he gave me a wonderful bear hug. He said 'I was a young man at that time and I was always waiting at the front door when we were expecting those fabulous Cottey girls.' Mr. DiCapo is not only Past President and Chairman of Development Committee of the WWI Museum but is Chairman of the Board of KC Metropolitan Crime Commission. Having such an influential man recall 'Cottey Girls' with such fondness is a testimony to Cottey College!"

1960s



Class of 1964 mini reunion—Seated: **Beth (Morgan) Bowens, Dellarac (Black) French, Annabelle (Arnold) Bohannon.** Standing: **Nancy (Tarrant) Schauerte**, our friend Coey, **Elizabeth (Doyle) Carty, Ronnie (Fjetland) Nelson and Harriet (Anderson) Maser.**

A group of us have been getting together for the past 20 years or so - having mini reunions each year in a place we would like to visit - this is in May 2008 and the

chosen spot was Tybee Island, Georgia. Without Cottey we probably would never have met and become friends. To the Class of '64 - we will be in Nevada in April 2009 and look forward to seeing all of you and reconnecting for our 45th.

1990s



Monique Morin '90 with husband Nick and daughter Carina.

Monique Morin '90 graduated in December 2007 with her Ph.D. in computer science from the University of New Mexico (UNM). Husband Nick (married in 2003) and daughter Carina (born 2005) were in attendance along with other family members. Monique is now adjunct faculty at the Los Alamos branch of UNM and can be reached via e-mail at morin@cs.unm.edu.



Rosa Moreno-Mahoney '93 at the inaugural parade.

Joining in the celebration of President-Elect Barack Obama's historic inauguration, AmeriCorps alumna **Rosa Moreno-Mahoney '93** marched in the 2009 Inaugural Parade in Washington D.C.

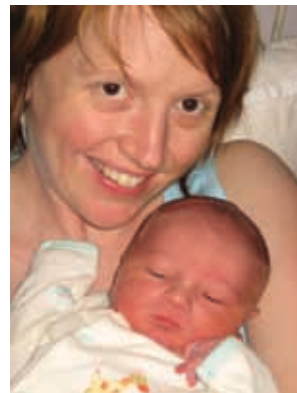
"I was honored to represent this amazing network of AmeriCorps alumni on the national level - it's a great way to promote what we do and celebrate our commitment to our communities across America," said Rosa Moreno-Mahoney. "The parade launched the beginning of a dynamic year for AmeriCorps and I was thrilled to participate."

Moreno-Mahoney was one of the 150 AmeriCorps alumni chosen to represent this national network of civic leaders. There are currently 550,000 alumni of AmeriCorps National Service continuing to act as agents of change in their communities. Moreno-Mahoney served as a member of AmeriCorps in Austin, Texas, and Washington, DC, and is currently the Chair of the AmeriCorps Alums National Leadership Council.

Moreno-Mahoney is the associate director of service and volunteerism for the One-Star Foundation in Austin, Texas.

Anna (Thomson) Owens '96 was married May 26, 2007, and her fellow classmates **Nicole Boisseau '96,**

Shumiah McTier '96, and **Elif Arslan '96** were all able to attend. Nicole's daughter was one of her flower girls; she was fabulous at her job. Tim and Anna moved to Portland, Oregon, last summer and their son was born on November 23, 2008, via natural waterbirth (which was an amazing experience). Miles Spencer Thomson Owens was a healthy, alert baby from the start weighing 9 lbs., 11 oz., and measuring 21-1/2 inches. They are enjoying watching him learn about the world and working for his delighted giggles since he decided about two weeks ago that they are hilarious.



Anna (Thomson) Owens '96 and her son Miles

Jessica Stoller '97 wanted to update all her Cottey friends. She has been living and teaching in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, for the past eight years. She finished her master's in curriculum and instruction this past summer and is now the ELL teacher at her school. She bought a house at the end of August and would love to hear from any friends at booker08@msn.com.

Brianne Fulton '99 had a recent adventure with 80 other American artists when she attended "Shared Journeys": an international ceramics symposium held in China in October of 2008. The confer-



World traveler **Brianne Fulton '99**

ence was held by the National Council for Educators in the Ceramics Art (NCECA) and the only ceramics-centered university in China: The Jingdezhen Ceramics Institute (JCI) and was the first of its kind. Brianne was one of seven students selected nationally for a scholarship from NCECA, and was able to contribute to student panels, exhibit her artwork, and donate a piece to the permanent collection at JCI. The experience was filled with daytrips to kiln sites that were up to 1000 years old, small and large-scale porcelain factories, demonstrations by prestigious American and Chinese artists, artist residency sites, mountain villages, and multiple day excursions to Shanghai and Suzhou (the Venice of the East). This trip marks Brianne's sixth experience abroad since graduating from Cottey, with stints in Egypt and various parts of Europe including a special trip with Cottey to London when she worked for the College as an admission representative. Brianne is currently a graduate student in the ceramics department at Fort Hays State University with an emphasis in ceramic sculpture. Her Cottey friends would be excited to know that her artwork carries a feminist theme! She'd love to hear from old buddies at blfulton@scatcat.fhsu.edu.

2000s

Here's proof of Cottey's international influence - **Diana (Dimitrova) Kalitzin '04** and **Tania String '78**

Diana (Dimitrova) Kalitzin '04 is studying art history at the University of Bristol in England. Imagine her surprise



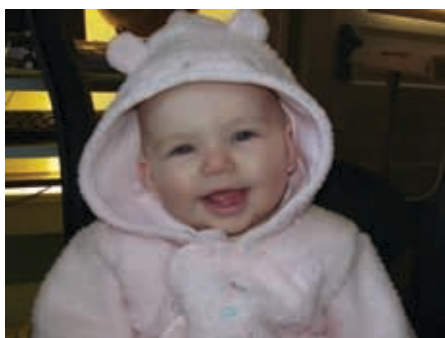
when it turned out that one of her lecturers is Cottey alum, Tania String '78!

The initial conversation went this way: Tania, who has been teaching at the University of Bristol since 1996, observed at Orientation that Diana, a new student from Bulgaria, spoke unusually excel-

please see Class Notes, page 2

[Marriages & Births]

1990s



Rebekah Anna Rita Grossman future Class of 2028

Liza Baseler Grossman '94 and Michael Grossman are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Rebekah Anna Rita Grossman on May 16, 2008. She was 6 lbs., 13 oz., and 19 inches long and is now a whopping 17 lbs. She is a happy baby; her favorite games right now are any form of tickles and peek-a-boo. Everyone is healthy and doing well. Liza can be reached at ergrossman2002@yahoo.com.



Ayrton, new son of **Nathalie Richter '96**

Nathalie Richter '96 is proud to announce the birth of her baby boy, Ayrton, on October 23, 2008. He is happy and healthy and so are his mommy and daddy. They are currently living a few miles away from Paris, France. She can be reached at natrichter@hotmail.fr

2000s



Heather Laubsch-Jibben '00 daughters Hayden and Keeley

Heather Laubsch-Jibben '00, her husband Brian, and their oldest daughter Keeley, would like to announce the birth of their second daughter, Hayden Evelyn Jibben. Hayden was born on January 16 (only two weeks overdue) weighing 8 lbs., 3 oz., and measuring 19 1/2 inches long. Hayden and Keeley are both doing great. Brian still works in finance and Heather is still busy in her sixth season with her dance studio. They would love to hear from friends, contact them at BHJibben@aol.com.



Abigail (Aiken) Clay '02 and her husband Alex

Abigail (Aiken) Clay '02 and Alex Clay were married August 23, 2008, at Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, Kentucky. **Charlotte Dore '02** was one of four bridesmaids. Following a honeymoon to Mackinac Island, Michigan, the couple resides in Lexington. Abby can be reached at aaaiken@hotmail.com.



Elise VanPool '03, Stephanie Grgurich '03, Karen Victoria (Torie Short) Davis, '03, Ellen Rytter '03, Elisabeth Gillot '03

Karen Victoria (Torie Short) Davis, '03 was married one year ago, January 19, 2008, to Sergeant Andrew Charles Davis. Cottey classmates in attendance were J. Elise VanPool, Stephanie Grgurich, Ellen Rytter, Elisabeth Gillot.

Kerri Kramer '05 and her husband Paul



and figuring it out." She did add that, "I have a colleague who has an MBA and we balance each other. Finding mentors is the fastest and easiest way to learn a trade or build a career."

Other than the quality of her products, one of the most striking elements of Zhen's Gypsy Tea is the packaging. The tins with the unique Gypsy Tea logo are quite striking and different from other tea products on the shelf.

"The original logo was a variation of the current one," said Muzyka. "An artist friend in Hawaii did a design of a flowing woman with a tea pot. Now it looks more modern, less abstract. I wanted the logo to be more playful. A lot of people who make tea are uptight," Muzyka joked, "I wanted to make tea fun and approachable."

When it was mentioned that the woman in the logo strongly resembled the founder, Muzyka admitted she was the model. "The designers wanted it to look like me," she said. "I lifted my arms, they snapped a photo, and they used that image."

Zhen's Gypsy Tea is more than tasty teas in funky packaging, however. Muzyka insisted from the beginning that her company adhere to Fair Trade practices. (See sidebar article on page 1.) Muzyka is also a proponent of green

Kerri Kramer '05 got married on July 11, 2008, to Paul Kramer. They currently live in North Platte, Nebraska. Paul works for the Union Pacific Railroad and is on the North Platte Volunteer Fire Department and Kerri is on the North Platte Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary. Her Cottey sisters were bridesmaids, **Alexis VanPool '05, Mae Mackey '05, and Stephanie Dwyer '05**. Kerri can't wait to see everyone next Founder's Day.



Trey Allen Caruthers, son of **Kristi Caruthers '05**

Kristi Caruthers '05 and her husband Brice announce the birth of their son, Trey Allen on November 1, 2008.

Mistress of Tea, from page 1



The logo that resembles the founder.

initiatives and offsetting her company's carbon footprint. Her company has eliminated almost all air freight out of its business model unless it is a special tea that has to arrive in a couple of days. They have also purchased green tags and wind power credits to offset their electric bill. They no longer print catalogs, they use recycled paper and don't use a varnish on the tea labels. When their tins are stamped, the scraps go to a factory that makes office furniture.

"I think it's common sense now," said Muzyka of her environmental efforts. "It's not political. We're very lucky to have this planet."

Muzyka has been recognized for her business and entrepreneurship. In 2007 she was named one of *Country Living Magazine's* Women Entrepreneurs, she was featured in a 2007 *Inc. Magazine* article on Five Young Entrepreneurs, in an April 2007 article in *Good Housekeeping Magazine*, and in the Winter 2008/09 issue of *GreenMoney Journal*. She was also one of the featured women in the book *Ladies Who Launch: Embracing Entrepreneurship and Creativity as a Lifestyle*.

Despite her success, the most noteworthy things for Muzyka are her son's health—"He is nine; he is healthy; he is beautiful," she said—and the positive changes she has been able to affect on tea estates. (See sidebar on Fair Trade.) "My experience is it makes all of the hard work worthwhile," Muzyka added. And what better way to relax after a day of hard work, than with a soothing cup of tea.

Class Notes

[Deaths]

1920s

The College received notice of the death of **Inezbelle (Kelsey) Shutt '29**.

1930s

Faurot (Teays) Weller '32, died November 28, 2008. Faurot was born in Nevada, Missouri. She was a teacher in Missouri until retiring. She and her husband managed Park Manor Retirement Home in Nashville, Tennessee, a venture they were both extremely proud of. Faurot lent her support and meticulous care to the Teays Chapel and Cemetery; she was a devoted member of the Methodist Church and a lifelong member of P.E.O. She is survived by her sister, two nephews, great niece, and great nephews. Two nieces and four nephews of the Weller Family also survived and many great-great nieces and nephews. Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband, one brother, sister-in-law, and her great nephew.

Marian Joy (Brainard) Smith '34 died on November 20, 2008. After graduating from Cottey, she got her degree from University of Nebraska. She attended graduate school at Columbia University where she received her master's in library science. Marian also got certified to teach and she worked in several different schools in their library. She retired to Arizona with her husband. She traveled extensively and was a member of P.E.O.

The College received notice of the death of **Barbara (French) Kirkbride '39**. Barbara generously donated to Cottey for many years.

1940s

Sara (Huston) Spears '41 died March 15, 2003, in Phoenix, Arizona, of natural causes. She was preceded in death by her husband and is survived by two sons.

Patricia (Taylor) Fellers '41 died of age-related causes. She was salutatorian of her graduating high school class, attended Cottey, and graduated from Central College. She was a volunteer and officer for many church and community organizations. Her greatest interests were her church affiliations in which she sang in the choir and participated in many church activities within her beloved church families. She was a prodigious reader, enjoyed spending time with her family, corresponding with many long time friends and watching basketball and baseball games on TV. Her survivors include her daughters, grandchildren, sister, niece, and grand-nephews.

The College received notice of the death of **Huldah (Phelps) Bacon '44** in September 2007.

Mary Lou (Zimmerman) Holloway '45 died April 28, 2005. After attending Cottey, she graduated from KU. She was a teacher for over 20 years in special education.

Antoinette "Toni" Paine Mitchell Koski '45, died October 24, 2008.

Toni was key in establishing the Dr. Marjorie Mitchell Leadership Fund with her siblings in honor of her aunt, president of Cottey from 1938 to 1949. After Cottey College she finished her degree at The Ohio State University. Toni was also a very experienced world traveler having visited Africa, Asia, South America, Australia, and Europe many times. She was an extremely well read woman who strongly believed in constant education. She read three newspapers daily, was a member of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle (the oldest book club in the country), listened daily to NPR, and watched TV commentary news all the time. Her strongest source of pride came from her immediate survivors, her son and her daughter and their families. Toni was preceded in death by her husband, her sister, her brother, her infant son, and her parents.

Doris (Greenstreet) Niemann '45 died on December 24, 2008. She grew up in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and graduated from both Cottey College and Kansas State University. She later lived and worked as a medical technologist in Berkeley, California, where she met and married her husband of 52 years. Doris was known to family and friends for her kindness, strength, wisdom, and generosity. She was a longtime member of P.E.O. and enjoyed traveling, swimming, and being involved in the lives of her children and grandchildren. Doris is survived by husband, sons, brother, and grandchildren.

The College received notice of the death of **Ruth (Easterbrook) Bertin '46**.

Geraldine (Sewright) Suiso '47, of Honolulu, a retired Wailupe Valley Elementary School teacher, died February 3, 2008, in St. Francis-East Hospice. She was born in Hot Springs, South Dakota. She is survived by husband, daughters, brother, and six grandchildren.

The College received notice of the death of **Dr. Margaret (Nolte) Young '48**. She died February 2007.

The College received notice of the death of **Carolyn (Parks) Moss '49**.

1950s

The College received notice of the death of **Margaret (Titus) Kaiser '50**.

The College received notice of the death of **Marilyn (Skeen) Muller '52** on April 19, 2007, from cancer.

1960s

The College received notice of the death of **Lynda (Bowen) Davis '60** on September 30, 2008. She attended Cottey for one year and transferred to the University of Northern Colorado. She and her husband settled in New York City in 1963 and had been residents ever since. Lynda retired in 1998 and is survived by her husband and sister.

Joann "Joni" Ryan '60, died December 15, 2005. Her education culminated in her earning a Ph.D. in mathematics from Purdue University. Joni was briefly engaged in environmental research after which she devoted her life to caring for her widowed mother and her beloved aunt. Her interests included nature, birds and flowers, local art and activities, and sports, especially Chicago Cubs. She was a member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood and a Presbyterian. Survivors include a cousin, two second cousins, and two third cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents and her aunts.

Diana Sue (Light) Burt '62 died January 1 following a long-term illness. After Cottey, she attended the University of South Dakota and Kansas State Teachers College in Emporia, Kansas, where she received her teaching certificate. She taught at the collegiate level and was heavily involved with the LDS church.

Diana loved family history and assisted with the Girl Scouts of America. She is survived by her husband, five sons, a daughter, a brother and sisters, and 11 grandchildren.

Kathleen E. Doyle-Bleecker '64, died June 10, 2006, of complications from treatment for cancer at Community Medical Center. An attractive, over-achieving redheaded cheerleader, Kate graduated as one of the top 10 students in her class in high school. She attended Cottey and then completed her B.A. in sociology at the University of Michigan. For the next eight years, she worked for the state of California. In 1988, she came to Montana for a fresh start; she began her third career until her semi-retirement in 2005. She was preceded in death by her mother and father, her stepmother, and a brother. She is survived by her husband, stepchildren, a brother, and two nieces and a nephew.

The College received notice of the death of **Becky (Brown) Smith '67** in March 2008, from breast cancer.

Penney (Kelley) Fujii '67 died December 25, 2008, following an 18-month illness. For the past 24 years she was the minister at Fifth Street Presbyterian Church of Conneaut Lake. She was a graduate of Cottey College; Hastings College in Hastings, Nebraska; and the San Francisco Theological Seminary. Survivors are her husband, a daughter, a son, her father, a sister, a brother, and two nieces. She was preceded in death by her mother.

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Spring '09

Meet One of Cottey's First IPS Students, Maria Lycouressi Argy '52

Editor's Note: This year, 2009, the P.E.O. Sisterhood's International Peace Scholarship (IPS) celebrates its 60th anniversary. Cottey has been honored over the years to have several outstanding international students come to Cottey with the assistance of IPS. One of the first IPS Scholars to attend Cottey was Maria Lycouressi Argy '52. Her story is below.

Currently Cottey has 12 IPS Scholars enrolled, and three of those students are ranked in the top ten of their class. It's no secret why Cottey enjoys its partnership with IPS. Some of the best and brightest students from around the world get to attend Cottey College because of IPS.

Cottey College congratulates IPS on its 60th anniversary.



The Gift of Cottey

As a young girl growing up in Greece during World War II, **Maria Lycouressi Argy '52**, remembers well the German occupation of her country. From soldiers marching in the streets to mass starvation, Greece was a difficult place during her childhood. Maria's parents believed in education and her father considered the United States "the hope of the world," so when the family learned of the P.E.O. Sisterhood's new International Peace Scholarship, Maria's parents encouraged her to study in the United States. It was a gift that would change her life, for it was the gift of Cottey College.

The trip to Cottey was no small feat; it took 17 days to travel from Maria's home in Athens to the Cottey campus in Nevada, Missouri. After growing up in a large city, Nevada was somewhat of a shock. "I missed the big city and being able to get lost in the people," she said. Still, one of her first impressions of America was that everything was so big compared to Greece, such as the trees, stones, and distances.

Like many international students, there were some difficult adjustments to life in small-town America for Maria. While she was happy academically, she sometimes struggled personally. She remembers the connections with other people as something that made the transition to America easier, from visiting the home of the local woman who did student laundry to a local minister who invited students into his home. Another highlight of her time at Cottey was going home to Iowa with her roommate, **Sandra Armstrong Thompson '52**.

During Maria's time as a Cottey student, President Blanche Hinman Dow took the young international student under her wing. Maria remembers receptions at the President's house and spending time talking with Dr. Dow about where to continue her education after Cottey. Maria ultimately decided on Smith College (the President's alma mater) and finished her bachelor's and master's degrees in English in three years at Smith. Maria is quick to attribute her academic success to the educational foundation established at Cottey College, as well as to the personal attention by Dr. Dow, to whom she refers as "exceptional."

After graduating with honors from Smith, Maria went back to Greece, where she met Dimitri Argy, who had recently completed his Ph.D. in Germany. The couple moved to the United States, where Dimitri became an engineering professor at what is now Carnegie Mellon University. The Argys eventually moved to the south shore of Massachusetts for Dimitri to teach. He is now retired from University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Maria also became a professor and taught English at Bristol Community College for 25 years. The couple have two sons, Odysseus and Nicolas, both of whom are physicians in Massachusetts.

In appreciation of the College and the P.E.O. Sisterhood that brought his mother to study in the United States, Odysseus established a Cottey scholarship in 2002 in his mother's honor. Each year, Dr. Argy contributes to the Maria Lycouressi Family Scholarship, which benefits deserving students studying the sciences, health sciences, or education. As a teacher herself whose life was changed by education, Maria understands the need for scholarships and is thrilled that each year, another young woman receives the gift of Cottey College.

30 Alumnae Gather in Washington D.C.



December 6, 2008, marked a Cottey College Alumnae gathering of about 30 alumnae in Washington, D.C., spanning back to the Class of 1961 to support Cottey and a new D.C. Cottey Alumnae Scholarship to send prospective students to Cottey's grounds. The mission of the scholarship is inspired by statistics that show young women who visit Cottey are highly likely to apply to and attend Cottey. The scholarship can pay for a summer workshop or a visit to tour the campus for "C" for Yourself! Weekend.

Alumnae at the event shared stories of midnight fun and buckling down for the challenges of college at a truly unique institution, where many appear to still dream of the fantastic baked potato soup and brunches. All seemed to agree that Cottey was a place of personal growth, even if it took years to understand that growth.

Jacquie Segal, a P.E.O. chapter president and Cottey Class of 1990 alum, also "learned much more than what was written in my books. I learned a new way of living. I learned to open my heart to other women, a skill that has served me well over the years, as my girlfriends (and my mother) are the foundation of my soul. I learned to revere education and rise above challenges and heartache - and I still give Dr. Anne Bunton most of the credit for getting me through!"

Elise Van Pool, Class of 2003, said that serving in Cottey student government taught her how to get things done, something that put her steps ahead of many of those at her transfer college.

Isabella Zakaryan, Class of 2001, had a memorable story of getting to Cottey, which she thanks D.C. P.E.O. for fostering. Several years ago "Bella" was living in the U.S. as an Armenian exchange student in Alabama where a local paper did a feature about her, noting her interest in staying in the U.S. for college. A D.C.-based company that organizes and sponsors exchange students circulated the news article and a P.E.O. working in that company saw the article, contacted Bella, and then sent her Cottey application forms.

D.C. hostess and 2001 Truman Scholar **Gabrielle Mary Sivage** is always up to half-a-dozen projects and is currently supporting the efforts of fellow Truman Scholar Chris Myers Asch's founding of the Public Service Academy, which now has pending legislation in Congress' House and Senate. Supporters are hopeful that with Truman Scholars like Janet Napolitano and Susan Rice now nominated to serve in the next Administration's Cabinet, that this could be a watershed period for establishing a new collegiate legacy like the Public Service Academy (www.uspublicserviceacademy.org).

Cottey College is no stranger to academic leaps and bounds. The D.C. P.E.O. Cottey Committee was pleased to learn about Cottey's baccalaureate program ambitions; and upon hearing remarks from Cottey's **Judi Steege**, alumnae were excited to support the College in increasing applicants. D.C. area P.E.O.s and alumnae are happily embarking upon a partnership to support Cottey alumnae while sending area young women to Cottey. Jacquie Segal put it best with her sentiment that, "I am thrilled to be a part of the D.C. Cottey alumnae and to help send other women off onto this great adventure. May they all learn as much as we did...this world can always use more women who've had the opportunity to grow in the way that only Cottey can afford."

Sivage, Cottey Class of 2000, would like to thank Cheryl Mathews-White and Cathy Thurston, her fellow D.C. State P.E.O. Cottey Committee Chairwomen for their support throughout the year, as well as Cottey's **Carrie Reeves '96** and Judi Steege, who supported the hosting of this event in various ways, including Judi's Cottey update at the event. On behalf of the Committee, she also thanks the D.C. State P.E.O. Board for their support in attending the event at Oyamel in D.C. All were thrilled with the venue and the brunch menu. All cheered OI' Cottey C!

IPS Recipient From Brazil Gives Back

Because of the P.E.O. Sisterhood's International Peace Scholarship (IPS), Cottey College students got to take a special one-hour credit course in January on Brazil: Its Culture and People. That's because Dr. Neda Bezerra from the University of Fortaleza, an IPS scholar in 1996, wanted to "contribute back for what P.E.O. did for me," as she said in a recent interview.

Bezerra came to the United States in 1988 to visit an American friend. She began taking classes at Millersville University in Millersville, Pennsylvania, doing babysitting and anything else she could find to pay the bills as she worked on her degree.

In 1996, Bezerra was in graduate school at the University of Florida and picked up a brochure she saw in the International Office. It was a pamphlet on IPS. One of her friends had also received an IPS scholarship and that is how she was introduced to IPS and P.E.O. Bezerra had her IPS scholarship renewed twice, and graduated with her Ph.D. from Florida.

She returned to Brazil where she directs the study abroad program for the University of Fortaleza (UNIFOR). English-speaking students can enroll at UNIFOR and take classes in English while learning Portuguese. Bezerra teaches courses in anthropology, sociology, research methods, Portuguese, and English.

One notable difference between an American university and one in Brazil is faculty are paid only for the hours they are actually instructing in the classroom. Grading and research are done on the professor's time. Most Brazilian professors teach 40 hours per week to make a living wage.

Brazilian universities have a month-long break in January, and last year, Bezerra traveled back to Millersville to conduct a short course on Brazil. It was the first time she had returned to her Pennsyl-



Dr. Neda Bezerra

vanian alma mater since 1992. She had loved her visit and was wanting another opportunity to come back to the United States and share her expertise. She had heard of Cottey College through P.E.O. and contacted the College to see if Cottey might be interested in having her come and teach. The course work had already been prepared, so it was a matter of making arrangements.

Of course Cottey was thrilled to offer students this bonus course and said yes. Of all the things Bezerra hoped to convey to the students was the incredible diversity of the country. "One word that defines Brazil is diversity," she said. "A US student would be surprised to see two Brazils: one highly developed and industrialized, and one not. There is such a contrast between the haves and the have nots."

Bezerra appreciates and loves her home country, but also cherishes her time spent in the United States. In fact it is her own personal diversity which has led her to the position she holds today at UNIFOR. She has lived in both the United States and Brazil, speaks both English and Portuguese, and has a background in languages, social sciences, and history. "It's been a long and winding road," says

Bezerra as she traces a serpentine pattern in the air with her forefinger, "but it was

rich and gave me opportunities to do things I might not have otherwise."

Fair Trade, from page 1

and clean water systems. It's required that the Fair Trade premium goes toward those things. Once they have the infrastructure, then most of the workers have saving accounts."

Currently Fair Trade tea accounts for only about one percent of the tea sold in the United States, but the demand is growing. Something as simple as choosing a Fair Trade product can improve the lives of so many low wage laborers.

"The quality of life has so improved on Fair Trade estates and it's something simple people can do for just pennies a cup," said Muzyka. "It makes a world of difference."

Muzyka visits the tea estates she purchases from three to four times each year, so she sees first hand the impact her decisions have made on the workers who pick her teas. When she married Gerard Linsmeier in 2006, they held their wedding ceremony on a tea estate in Sri Lanka. "We had 1000 people at the ceremony," Muzyka reported. "The workers were so happy I came to share my wedding with them."

Looking for the black-and-white Fair Trade Certified label from TransFair USA is the only true guarantee of fairly traded tea. TransFair audits the supply chain of U.S. importers to ensure that the tea came from certified growers. Zhena's Gypsy Tea is a Fair Trade Licensee with TransFair USA, and the Fair Trade certification label is displayed on Muzyka's Web site. For more information on Fair Trade certification, visit TransFair's Web site at www.transfairusa.org.



Zhena Muzyka '95 and husband Gerard Linsmeier at their wedding in Sri Lanka on a Fair Trade tea estate.

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Looking for a lost classmate?

Maybe the Office of Alumnae Relations can help you find your missing person. It's as easy as picking up the phone, sending an e-mail, fax, or letter. Simply contact the office, give us your name and address, and we'll forward it to your friend's most recent address. We can give out an alumna's address to another alumna, or we can verify an address for you. Contact us and ask if our most recent address matches the one you have. Here's how to contact the Office of Alumnae Relations to help locate your friends and classmates.

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1000 W. Austin, Nevada, MO 64772

Phone: 417-667-8181, ext. 2122

Fax: 417-667-8103

E-mail: alumnae@cottey.edu

Remember to include the class year of your school pals when requesting information. Please notify us when you move, so we can help YOUR classmates keep track of your whereabouts as well. Use the coupon to the left to let us know when you change your address.

Comets Find Themselves First and Twentieth

The Cottey College Comets are number one...and number 20. Although it seems like a contradiction, the basketball Comets are indeed number one. They achieved their first-ever number one seed in the Region XVI postseason tournament with an 8-2 record against regional opponents this season. They are also the 20th ranked team in the latest National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II poll with their overall record of 15-5. It is the first time the Comets have been ranked in the Top 20 in their short ten-year history.

The Comets are led on offense by their two pre-season All-American candidates, second-year players Brittany Smith and Jessica Roberts. Those two are closely matched statistically. Smith averaged 16.8 points and 5.5 rebounds per game while Roberts tallied 16.4 points and 5.0 rebounds per game. First-year player Alex Noble also averaged double figures on offense with her 11.3 points per game.

One of the keys to the Comets' success this season is their ability to play pressure defense throughout the entire game. Part of that ability to play defense is due to the excellent conditioning of the athletes; the other ingredient is having a deep bench to allow regular substitution to keep fresh legs on the court.

Cottey finished the first semester with a respectable 6-3 record. Once the holidays were over, however, the Comets caught fire. Before classes began, the team made their annual trip to St. Louis to face three regional opponents in one long weekend. Tipping off against Forest Park, Meramec, and Florissant Valley, the team came home winners of two out of three games, bookending a pair of victories around a loss to Meramec. The loss to Meramec would be their last loss for over a month as they won their next eight consecutive games.

After the road win against Flo Valley, the Comets found themselves in the friendly confines of Hinkhouse Gymnasium for

a five-game stretch where they reeled off victories against Ozark Christian College, Baptist Bible College, regional opponent North Central Missouri College, Florissant Valley, and Meramec. (A game scheduled against the Missouri Valley College JV was cancelled due to an ice storm.)

Taking their 13-4 record on the road, the Comets traveled to Trenton, Missouri, to face North Central Missouri on its home court. Cottey had handed the Lady Pirates their only regional loss just two weeks earlier. With one regional loss each, this game would prove to be pivotal in which team might have the top seed in the postseason.

In the first half, the home team ran out to a commanding 35-43 lead after the first half. The Comets may have been down, but not out, as they pulled off one of the best second-half comebacks in team history. With a 47-point output in the final 20 minutes, the Comets came roaring back to grab their first lead with less than three minutes in the game. Cottey held on down the stretch and grabbed an 82-79 win. More important, they handed the Lady Pirates a second defeat in regional competition.

In the final home game of the season, the Comets easily defeated Forest Park and then hit the road for one final Region XVI match. Cottey had beaten Penn Valley back in December, but the Comets had never defeated the Lady Scouts on their home floor. It was not to be this evening either as Penn Valley pulled out the victory in the second half. Still, the Comets were able to secure the top seed with their 8-2 record in the region.

During the eight-game win streak, the Comets outscored their opponents 602-451, and had an average margin of victory of 19 points.

The Comets will play their first Region XVI tournament game on Friday, February 27. Should they win, they will play



Jessica Roberts goes hard to the basket against a pair of defenders in a game against Baptist Bible College in January. The Comets won that game 74-55.

in the championship game on Saturday, February 28. The Comets have finished second in the postseason tournament for the last three years and are hopeful that this is the year they win it all. By the

time the *Viewpoint* is delivered, the tournament will be over, but you can catch the final scores on Cottey's Web site by going to the Basketball Page.

COMETS GAME PLANNER SPRING 2009

SOFTBALL

NOTE: All dates scheduled are doubleheaders.

FEBRUARY

23	Independence Community College	Independence, KS	3 p.m.
27-28	Early Bird Evangel Tourney	Springfield, MO	TBA

MARCH

05	Allen County Community College	Iola, KS	2 p.m.
06	East Central College	HOME	2 p.m.
20	East Central College	Union, MO	2 p.m.
21	Mineral Area College	Park Hills, MO	3 p.m.
26	North Arkansas College	HOME	1 p.m.

APRIL

02	Fort Scott Community College	Fort Scott, KS	2 p.m.
04	Mineral Area College	HOME	1 p.m.
05	Coffeyville Community College	HOME	1 p.m.
09	Allen County Community College	HOME	3 p.m.
14	North Arkansas College	Harrison, AR	1 p.m.
18	St. Louis CC-Forest Park	St. Louis, MO	1 p.m.
20	Labette Community College	HOME	2 p.m.
21	Fort Scott Community College	HOME	2 p.m.
23, 24, 25	Region XVI Playoffs	Union, MO	TBA



Four senior basketball players were recognized before the final home game of the year for their contributions to the team. Pictured are Molly Frick, Shanda Moon, Jessica Roberts, and Brittany Smith. Coach Dave Ketterman stood in for Molly Frick's parents who were unable to attend.



One Vision ~ 125 Years!

Cottey College turns 125 years old this year! On September 8, 1884, Virginia Alice Cottey held her first day of classes in what was then called Vernon Seminary. Started with \$3,000 saved by her and her sisters, the modest one-building school opened with Miss Cottey reading the following statement to the first students:

“Fully realizing, we trust, the great fact that God has called woman to a high and holy destiny in that He has commissioned her to be a co-laborer with himself in the great work of enlightening and saving the world, we desire to open a school that shall have for its prime object the adjustment of woman to this her natural and God-given relation.”

During 2009, Cottey will celebrate its quasiquicentennial with the theme “One Vision~125 Years” to note that the vision of Virginia Alice Cottey, the goal of educating women, has not changed over the long and distinguished history of this institution.

A 125th Anniversary Committee has planned several events on campus to celebrate this special anniversary. In February, the committee hosted a fun Sunday evening event, The College of Cottey Knowledge Bowl, pitting a team of faculty and staff against a team of students to see who knew their Cottey history better. On March 28, a special exhibit of the art work of the late Harry Chew, Cottey art professor, will open with a reception from 3-5 p.m. Dodie and Pam Chew are expected to attend this gala opening. The Library is doing a special oral history project for Women’s History Month to record memories alumnae have of Cottey. Special events for the fall will be announced in a later issue of the *Viewpoint*.

The special quasiquicentennial logo shown on this page was designed by graphic designer and Cottey alumna **Sarah Roulston ‘04**. **Nancy Delahanty Kerbs ‘79**, Cottey’s coordinator of institutional research, has been running a series of Cottey history notes in both weekly newsletters for students and employees. Below is one of the historical notes featured recently.



souri, she had many male admirers as a young woman. She did not marry either of the two most serious suitors because her vision for the school would not be possible. On March 6, 1890, she married the genial Sam Stockard in the Main Hall Parlor. She consented to marriage only after telling him that her school would always come first, as it had from the beginning.”

Have a special historical note to share? Send it to the *Viewpoint*! We’d love to share some of the best of your Cottey memories during this special anniversary year.



White Dresses and Daisies

Even after 125 years, some traditions don’t change much. The photo left shows a graduating class from the 1890s in their white dresses holding the traditional daisies. The photo right shows a recent graduation procession with freshmen in white dresses and graduates in white gowns holding daisies.



COTTEY

Inquiries and information should be addressed to:
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